

Remarks

Claims 1, 8-10, 13, 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto et al. (6,285, 170) in view of Gordon (5,815,386). The Examiner asserts that Matsumoto discloses the claimed device except for having the feedback inductor inductively coupled to the input inductor of the boost converter and proceeds to rely on Gordon for a teaching of providing the feedback inductor inductively coupled to the input inductor of the boost converter.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to add the elements of now cancelled claim 12 rendering the rejection of claims 1, 8-10 moot under these grounds. With respect to claim 13, the Examiner's rejection totally ignores recited elements in a claim. Specifically, claim 13 requires a controllable rectifying element connected between a current supplying output of the rectifier circuit and an input of the boost converter for controlling the current supply to the boost converter. The Examiner even admits in paragraph 4 of the present office action that Matsumoto does not teach nor suggest to controllable rectifying elements. The Examiner therefore has not made a prima facie case of obviousness for rejecting claims 13, 18-21. Withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claims 13, 18-21 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Gordon. The Examiner asserts that Matsumoto and Gordon disclose the claimed invention except for the number of windings and the switching signals being controlled by ratio of the number of windings and the windings and the switching signal being controlled by polarization of the windings. The Examiner further concludes that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine these elements. Claims 16 and 17 depend from claim 13 and require the elements that are lacking from the combination of Matsumoto and Gordon as described above. For the same reasons stated above, namely that the Examiner has not met the burden of proving prima facie obviousness, claims 16 and 17 are believed to be patentable distinct from the combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claims 11 and 12 are rejected a 35 U.S.C. (a) is being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Min (5, 202, 819). The Examiner correctly states that Matsumoto lacks a teaching of having at least two rectifying elements connected to at least one of the input lines and two controllable rectifying elements that are switched. The Examiner relies on Min for disclosure of providing at least two rectifying elements connected to a least one of the input lines and two controlled rectifying elements that are switched. The elements of claim 12 have been added to amended claim 1 and claim 11 is a part of claim set ultimately depends from amended claim 1. Although Min teaches a transformation rectifying section whose output voltage is fed to a bridge rectifying circuit having a pair of silicon controlled rectifiers, that transformation rectifying section is connected to and is monitoring the input to the rectifier. Nowhere does Min teach nor suggest that the switching signal for controlling the controllable rectifying elements could come from or be connected to a current supplying output of the rectifier circuit as required by amended claim 1. Likewise, Matsumoto does not teach not suggest combining it's teachings with a controllable rectifier element. These references therefore provide no motivation to combine the elements of amended claim 1. Reconsideration and removal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Gordon and further in view of Min. The scope of claims 3 and 7 has been changed by the amendment to claim 1. This rejection is therefore moot. Furthermore, since claim 1 is believed to be patentable distinct from the references of record as described above, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 3 and 7 is respectfully requested.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Gordon and further in view of Min. Likewise, the scope of claims 5 and 6 has been changed by the amendment to claim 1 rendering this rejection moot. Since claim 1 is believed to be patentably distinct from the references of record as described above, reconsideration of the rejection of claims 5 and 6 is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, dependent claim 3 has been amended to remove duplicative recitation of the controllable rectifying elements.

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In view of the amendments and arguments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayments associated with this application to Deposit Order Account No. 501581.

Respectfully submitted,



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